

Message Text

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15

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /098 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1450

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3749

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, RQ, YO

SUBJ: PUERTO RICO IN COMMITTEE OF 24, YUGOSLAVIA

AMBASSADOR BENNETT TELEPHONED YUGOSLAV PERMREP PETRIC TO SAY WE WERE FRANKLY ASTONISHED AT YUGOSLAV POSITION OF ABSTENTION ON AUSTRALIAN MOTION TO ADJOURN PUERTO RICAN ITEM IN VIEW OF REITERATED ASSURANCES BY PETRIC IN THEIR TWO CONVERSATIONS ON AUGUST 19 THAT YUGOSLAVIA WAS WORKING HARD FOR POSTPONEMENT OF ISSUE. IN FACT, CONTINUED BENNETT, WE HAD INFORMATION FROM RELIABLE SOURCE THAT YUGOSLAVS WERE BUSY ON COMMITTEE FLOOR THIS MORNING WORKING FOR CUBAN POSITION AND AGAINST POSTPONEMENT. PETRIC STOUTLY DENIED YUGOSLAVS HAD WORKED AGAINST POSTPONEMENT (WE BELIEVE OUR RELIABLE WESTERN SOURCE) AND RATHER LAMELY DEFENDED YUGOSLAV ACTION BY SAYING IT WAS CLEAR IN COMMITTEE THAT POSTPONEMENT MOTION WOULD CARRY AND IT WAS THEREFORE BETTER FOR YUGOSLAVIA TO ABSTAIN IN VIEW NON-ALIGNED DIVISION OVER QUESTION. BENNETT MADE CLEAR YUGOSLAV MISSION HAD LOST CREDIBILITY WITH US BY THIS EVASIVENESS AND SAID APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIONS WOULD BE MADE IN BELGRADE. PETRIC IN HIS TURN EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT BENNETT'S APPROACH, SAYING HE HAD EXPECTED A CALL OF APPRECIATION FROM US FOR YUGOSLAV EFFORTS AT POSTPONEMENT. BENNETT EXPRESSED FURTHER ASTONISHMENT AND ASKED WHY WE SHOULD BE

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EXPECTED TO BE APPRECIATIVE OF YUGOSLAV ABSTENTION ON A

MATTER OF GROSS INTERFERENCE IN U.S. INTERNAL
AFFAIRS.
BENNETT

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NNN

Message Attributes

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